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18 Jan 1949

COUNTRY Chile/Bolivie/Argentina

SUBJECT Activities of Jorge Calero in Chile

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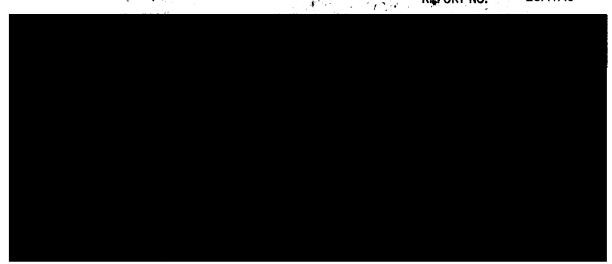
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- Juan Duarte, the private secretary and brother-in-law of President Peron. was the leader of a group conspiring to overthrow the Hertzog Government and to replace it with a military regime;
- Calero himself, Victor Paz Estenssoro, and other Bolivian refugees in Buenos Aires were leading members of this conspiratorial group;
- It was the opinion of this group that military governments should be formed in the different Latin American countries, since such governments could and would collaborate in a program of opposition to Yankee imperialism;
- The financing of such activities would be no problem, since Argentina has an abundance of money;
- e. The fall of the Peruvian government, which was predicted by Calero, would be followed by that of Bolivia; and
- The government of Chile would fall after the Hertzog regime of Bolivia had been overcome.
- Calero allegedly urged Gaete Pequeno to join this movement which would liberate Latin America from Yankee imperialism, and said that instructions and news would be forthcoming from Argentina.
- 3. Gaete Pequeno stated that, at first, he had awaited instructions from Calero, but, when faced by the fall of the Peruvian government, the discovery of the plot in Chile, and the accusations of Argentine complicity in the plot, he had decided that his duty as a Chilean was to report the matter. He therefore decided to tell his old friend Pacheco Sty the story and to ask his advice.

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- h. Pacheco Sty considered this information to be important and immediately reported the matter to Minister of Interior Immanuel Holger. Holger in turn informed President Gonzalez Videla.
- 5. The Investigaciones section of the Chilean police supported Gaete Pequeno's story that Calero is not now in Chile. Since Gaete Pequeno claimed to be unaware of any other contacts made by Calero in Chile, the authorities are said to have considered that no further action was possible.

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Comment. Available information concerning Gustavo Gaete Pequeno indicates that he is a Chilean national, 40 years old, married, and is a member of the pro-Communist Partido Socialista Autentico. He has been employed for the last several months by the Highway Division of the Direction General of Public Works of Chile. During the Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay, Gaete Pequeno, according to his own statements, served in the Bolivian army until he was captured by the Paraguayans in 1936. He remained a prisoner until the end of the war in 1937. He claims that during this time, he met and became very friendly with several Bolivian officers who were also Paraguayan prisoners. Jorge Calero was among this group. Gaete Pequeno stated that after his liberation from the Paraguayan prisoner of war camp, he returned to Chile and had no further contact with any of his former fellow-prisoners until this visit by Calero.)